

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00
COME-00 DLOS-09 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02
DOE-15 FMC-01 TRSE-00 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSF-01
OES-07 OMB-01 /148 W
-----019809 010034Z /63

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8358

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 09783

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS, JA
SUBJECT: MILD OPTIMISM RE CONTINENTAL SHELF LEGISLATION

1. IN CONVERSATIONS WITH EMBOFF LAST NIGHT SEVERAL LDP AND NLC DIET MEMBERS THOUGHT PROSPECTS WERE RELATIVELY FAVORABLE FOR CONTINENTAL SHELF TREATY IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION PRIOR TO JUNE 16 DIET ADJOURNMENT, ALTHOUGH DEBATE WOULD GO DOWN TO WIRE. CONSENSUS SEEMED TO BE THAT THIS BEING FOURTH OR FIFTH ROUND IN DIET. WHEN TREATY AS WELL AS LEGISLATION WERE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, OPPOSITION HAD HAD AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE ITS SAY AND WOULD NOT LOSE FACE IF LDP NOW PUSHED AHEAD, PRESUMABLY IN COOPERATION WITH DSP. MOREOVER, OPPOSITION DIET MEMBERS WERE CONCERNED ABOUT IMPACT OF ARGUMENT THAT LDP MIGHT USE IN HUSTINGS: JAPAN NEEDS OIL AND OPPOSITION IS STANDING IN WAY OF EXPLOITING NEW RESOURCES. ACCORDING TO MEMBER OF UPPER HOUSE COMMERCE COMMITTEE, WHERE DEBATE ON LEGISLATION IS PROCEEDING AT LEISURELY PACE, LDP AROUND JUNE 6 WOULD FORCE THROUGH MOTION TO CUT OFF DEBATE EVEN THOUGH ALLOCATED NUMBER OF HOURS FOR DELIBERATION HAD NOT BEEN EXHAUSTED. ALLOWING FOR CERTAIN AMOUNT OF POSTURING BY
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OPPOSITION, LEGISLATION WOULD BE ENACTED BY UPPER HOUSE PLENARY JUST PRIOR TO ADJOURNMENT. ANOTHER DIET MEMBER MENTIONED THAT RELATIVELY SMOOTH OPENING OF NARITA AIRPORT HAD MADE THIS SCENARIO POSSIBLE INASMUCH AS DIET HAD NO PLAUSIBLE ALTERNATIVE CENTERS FOR ITS ATTENTION. SHOULD ANOTHER MAJOR INCIDENT OCCUR, HOWEVER, IT COULD WELL AFFECT PASSAGE. MANSFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

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